

**University of Luxembourg**

Faculty of Law,  
Economics and Finance

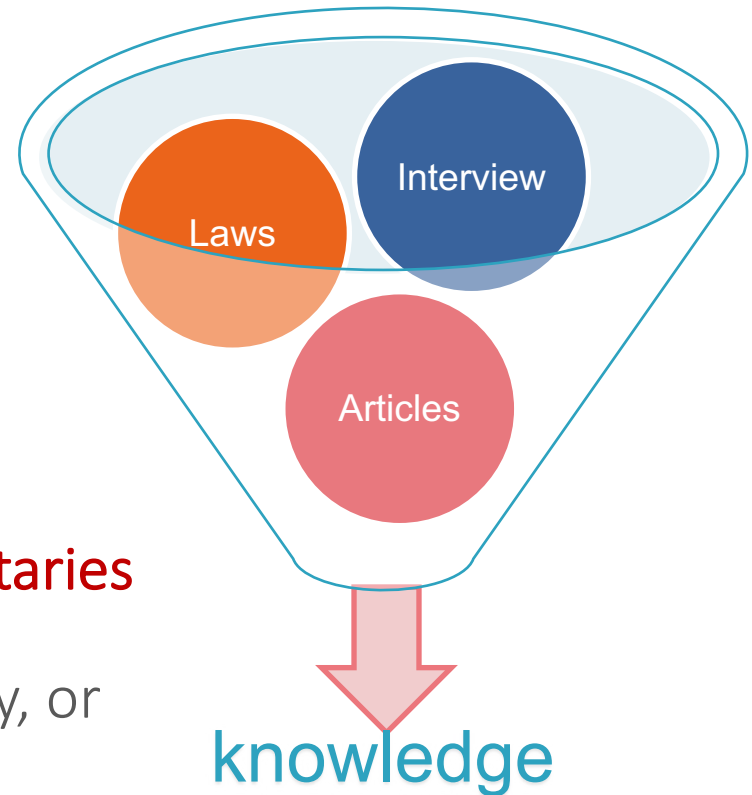
# Referencing

By Florence D'Ath

# What is this workshop about?

In the legal field, *before* writing a text, we first conduct a broad and general research on the topic (“pre-research”):

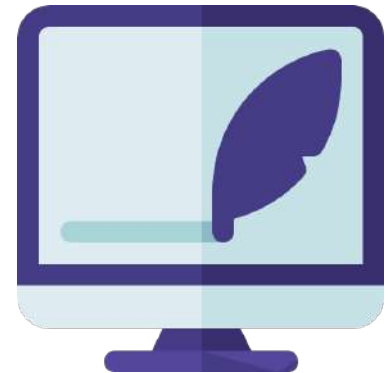
- we read **books, articles** or other **written materials** on the subject
- we read and analyse the relevant **law** and **case-law**
- we read **newspapers**
- we watch **TV programs** or **documentaries**
- we conduct **interviews** (academically, or “field interviews”).



# What is this workshop about?

Once we have gained sufficient knowledge, we start writing our own opinions / ideas on the topic.

In this process, every time we **repeat** or **rephrase** what we have learned from another source (e.g. an online newspaper or a book), it is essential to **refer to this source**.



# What is this workshop about?

- This workshop is about **referencing**, i.e. the action of including references to **external sources** in a text
- A **reference** can be defined as the **mention** of a **writer, a book, etc. in a piece of writing**, showing where particular information was found

(Definition found in the online Cambridge Dictionary)

**This is a reference!**

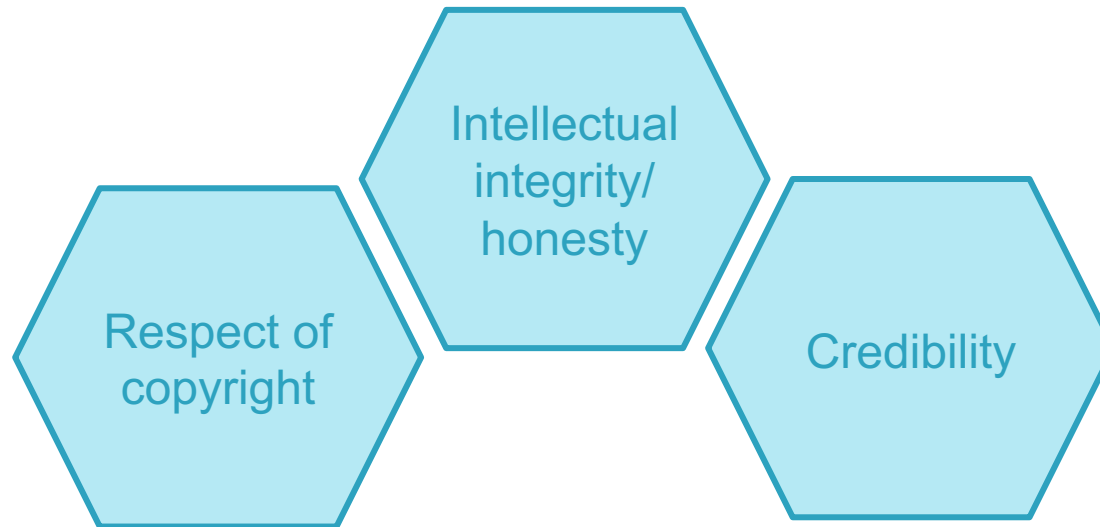
# Structure of this workshop

1. Referencing: why is it important?
2. How to do it correctly? (different styles)
3. Practical exercises

# Referencing: why is it important?

# Why is it important?

Three main reasons:



# Example

In Luxembourg, women have acquired the right to vote on May 8, 1919.\* The Parliament adopted a law according to which women were allowed to participate to elections.

Which law??



\* Wikipedia, [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline\\_of\\_women%27s\\_suffrage#1919](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Timeline_of_women%27s_suffrage#1919).

This source might not be reliable / complete. It lacks credibility.





# Example

In Luxembourg, women have acquired the right to vote on May 8, 1919.\* On that day, the Constituent Assembly of Luxembourg voted in favour of universal suffrage, extending the right to vote to all citizens over age 21, regardless of sex (39 votes in favour, 11 votes against and 1 abstention).\*\*



I refer to the original law, as well as the work of well-known experts, to show that this information is reliable/credible. I am also *intellectually honest* towards the other authors.

\* Law of du 15 May 1919 revising article 52 of the Constitution, published on 16/05/1919 in Memorial A33, Permalink ELI <http://data.legilux.public.lu/eli/etat/leg/loi/1919/05/15/n3/jo>.

\*\* M. Engel, R. Wagener, *Die Einführung des Frauenwahlrechts in Luxemburg*, in Goetzinger, Lorang, Wagener (eds) « Wenn nun wir Frauen auch das Wort ergreifen... », Luxembourg 1997, p. 90-92.

# Referencing in the legal field: how to do it correctly?

# How to do it correctly ?

In the legal field, when referring to another author, it is important to ensure that:

- a) the opinion/idea of the author is correctly reproduced; and that
- b) the reference itself is correct (source).

# How to do it correctly ?

## a) Is the opinion/idea of the author correctly reproduced?

Two ways to reproduce an idea:

- **Quotation** = copy-paste of (part of) the text + reference!!
- **Paraphrasing** = re-explaining an idea or opinion in different terms + reference!!

## Quotation vs paraphrasing:

- Article 38 of the Lao PDR Constitution states: *“Citizens of both genders enjoy equal rights in the political, economic, cultural and social fields and in family affairs.”*\*

= quotation (“...”)

- The Lao PDR Constitution provides that all Lao citizens should be treated equally, including in the political field.\*

= paraphrasing

\* Article 38 of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic’s Constitution of 1991 (consolidated version), translated to English and made available by the Constitute Project ( <https://www.constituteproject.org>).

# How to do it correctly ?

## b) Is the reference *itself* correct?

- It is important to be **accurate** and **complete** when writing references, so that the reader can find back the source ! (ex. Name of the author, *Book title*, editor, year of publication, page number);
- Different **rules** exist, depending on the **style** used. Make sure to always use the same style throughout one text.

## Quotation vs paraphrasing:

### Article 37

- ~~Article 38~~ of the Lao PDR Constitution states: “*Citizens of both genders enjoy equal rights in the political, economic, cultural and social fields and in family affairs.*”\*

= quotation (“...”)

- The Lao PDR Constitution provides that all Lao citizens should be treated equally, including in the political field.\*

= paraphrasing

### Article 37

\* ~~Article 38~~ of the Lao People’s Democratic Republic’s Constitution of 1991 (consolidated version), translated to English and made available by the Constitute Project ( <https://www.constituteproject.org>).

# How to do it correctly?

Most popular referencing styles in the field of law / social sciences:

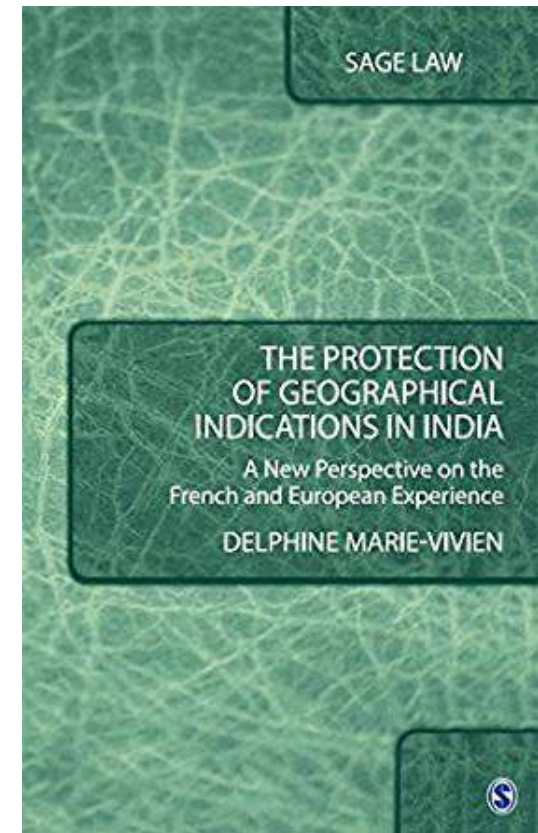
- Chicago (in Asia, mainly);
- Oxford Standard for the Citation of Legal Authorities (OSCOLA, in Europe, mainly)
- Harvard (in the US, mainly)
- Modern Language Association (MLA)
- American Psychological Association (APA style)



# Example

## Reference to a book:

- **Chicago** : Marie-Vivien, Delphine. *The Protection of Geographical Indications in India: A New Perspective on the French and European Experience*. SAGE Law. 2015.
- **APA**: Marie-Vivien, D. (2015). *The protection of geographical indications in India : A new perspective on the French and European experience* (SAGE law).
- **Harvard**: Marie-Vivien, D. (2015) *The protection of geographical indications in India : a new perspective on the French and European experience*. SAGE law.



# Tips and tricks

Most academic databases offer “already made” references: you just need to choose a style and add the correct page number!

 IMPRIMER  COURRIEL  LIEN PERMANENT  CITATION  EASYBIB  ENDNOTE  REFWORKS  EXPORT BIBTEX

**APA (6ème édition)**

Chicago/Turabian (16ème édition)

Harvard 1

MLA (7ème édition)

MLA (8ème édition)

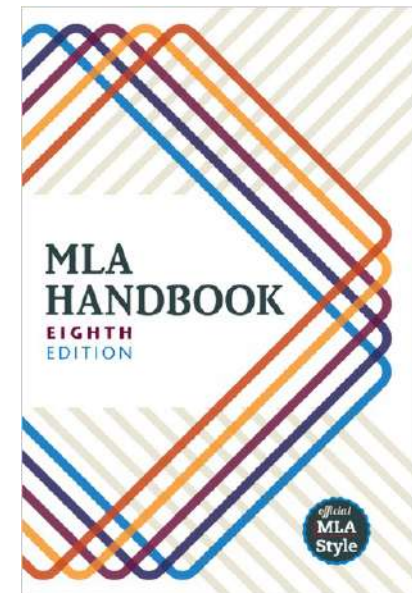
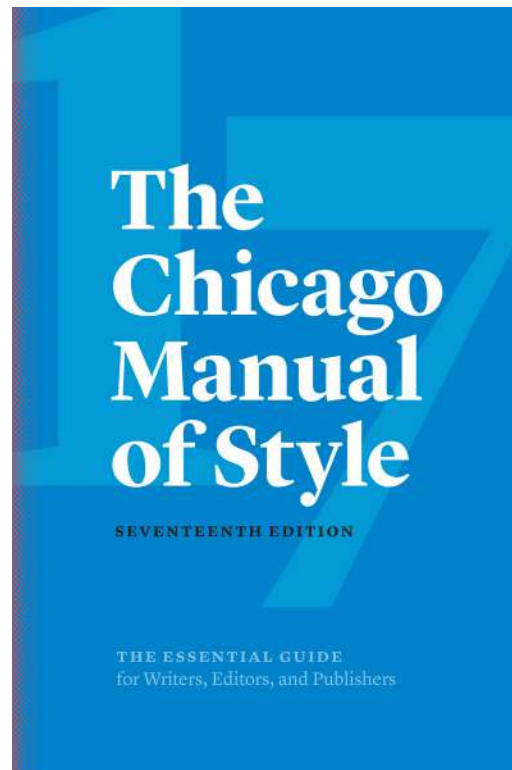
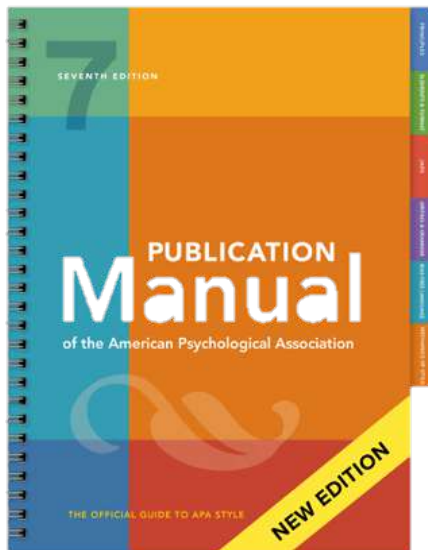
Brkan, M. (2016). The Unstoppable Expansion of the EU Fundamental Right to Data Protection: Little Shop of Horrors? *Maastricht Journal of European and Comparative Law*, 23(5), 812-841.

 **COPIER LA RÉFÉRENCE DANS LE PRESSE-PAPIER**

**Vérifier l'exactitude des citations avant de les inclure dans votre travail**

# Tips and tricks

Otherwise, you can check the rules of your favourite referencing style online, and write down all references accordingly:



# Thank you!



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Visit our  
website and  
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activities !

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